

MOLONGLO CATCHMENT GROUP Inc.

ABN 78 210 867 987



MCG Executive and General Meeting
Monday, 11 August 2014

MCG Office: Unit 13, Cassidy Arcade, 72-76 Monaro Street, Queanbeyan

1. Welcome and Apologies

In the absence of Lynton Bond, President, the meeting was opened at 5.02pm by Karen Williams, Vice President, who extended a warm welcome to all present.

In attendance were Karen Williams, Bernie Bugden, Linda Beveridge, Carol Billett, John Bridge, Jim Arnold, Don Fraser, Maryke Booth and Tom Baker.

Apologies were received from Lynton Bond.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on 14 July 2014 were circulated by email prior to this meeting. No amendments were tabled and John proposed that the minutes be accepted. The motion was seconded by Linda.

3. Business Arising

- **Conservation Volunteers Australia** – Bernie and Mel had assisted CVA in June in undertaking a Work Health and Safety systems audit. Bernie will circulate the recommendations regarding processes to the Executive for discussion prior to sign-off. He said that most systems are already in place. It may be necessary to run workshops for groups to raise awareness.
- **Fundraising** – Bernie followed up with Jenny Quealy about running workshops for Landcare groups on fundraising. The cost is \$1200 per day. Bernie is meeting with Landcare NSW to see if funding for workshops comes under their umbrella. The workshop is structured as business planning and it may be beneficial to engage with a larger group first, then have a MCG-specific workshop.

4. Correspondence

In:

Date	Source	Subject	From
25/7/14	Letter	NSW Environmental Trust confirmation of grant for Restoration and Rehabilitation, <i>Captains Flat/Upper Molonglo</i> - \$99,912.	Rob Stokes, Minister for the Environment
28/7/14	Letter	NSW Environmental Trust advice of unsuccessful bid for grant for <i>Healthy Horses, Healthy Land</i>	NSW Environmental trust
5/8/14	Email	Green Army Bid	Bindi Vanzella, Greening Australia
8/8/14	Email	2014 Environment Grants announcement	ACT Landcare/Minister Corbell
11/8/14	Email	NSW Environmental Trust confirmation that 2014 Restoration and Rehabilitation Grants are now open.	NSW Environmental Trust

Out:

Date	Source	Subject	To
8/8/14	Email	Oaks Estate Master Plan	Environment and Planning Directorate

5. Reports**5.1 President's Report – Karen Williams**

Karen raised the key issues in the report that had been prepared by Lynton and circulated via email prior to the meeting.

- Catchment and Landcare Association – there is a proposal to create a peak Landcare body, to be tabled at a meeting on 21 August. Bernie will circulate the draft to the Executive.
- Biodiversity Working Group – Linda attended the meeting on 23 July. The group is looking at a priority submission to Government on conservation. They also touched on the issue of dog on/off leash areas.
- ACT Basin Priorities Project – there is a proposal to monitor for base metals downstream of Fyshwick to assess the effect of a light industrial area.
- Waterwatch – the preferred candidate for the Waterwatch Coordinator position has accepted and will commence on 9 September.
- NSW Environmental Trust – the Fernleigh Park bid was successful, as was the Jerrabomberra Creek small bird project which received \$9,908. Mel, Bernie, Tom and Karen attended the Saving Our Species Partnerships workshop in Queanbeyan on 9 August to gain a thorough understanding of the objectives and possible partnerships. We need to find the right partners who have the same objectives and who can cross boundaries. Bernie will ask Mel to prepare a brief for the Committee and circulate out of session to list possible projects.
- The Poplars – Tom and Mel are to talk to the owner on Wednesday morning about fencing as the area is unfenced. Queanbeyan City Council will contribute to the cost of fencing.
- Jerrabomberra Wetlands Office – discussion occurred on the possible relocation of the MCG office. Karen will ask Lynton about his vision regarding the possible move and whether he needs assistance to address the matter.

5.2 Vice President's Report – Karen Williams

The report was circulated via email prior to the meeting.

- 20-7-2014 Conducted final of 2013-14 series of Interacting with the Ngunawal Perspective walks and talks, London Bridge on the Burra Creek. 25 registrations, about 22 participants (4 day notice of bookings). Perfect day and excellent feedback. Karen is currently preparing the acquittal documentation for the project including a place story.
- 30/31-8-2014 Preparation meeting for and interview of Water Watch officer for MCG, with Lynton, Woo, Bernie and Mel.
- 8-8-2014 Attended Save Our Species workshop (NSW Environment Trust grants) with Bernie and Mel. The workshop was focused on community engagement, beginning the conversation. The

funding rationale addresses the 2007 Threatened Species Program. Requires partnership arrangements to cover the vast spread of sites and array of actions needed. The program makes use of the Saving Our Species Database – public Web Application which is linked to NSW Wildlife Atlas. The program focuses on Fauna species and supporting ecosystems. Funding priority equation is

Project Priority Score=Benefit x Likelihood of Success/Cost.

- Prepared MCG submission to Oaks Estate Master Plan consultation (circulated by email FYI) – thanks to Bernie and Lynton for their support.

5.3 Treasurer's Report – John Bridge

The financial statements were circulated by email prior to the meeting.

- The BAS has been sent to the ATO and the amount paid.
- Audit of financial statements – the auditors carried out the audit on 23-24 July and are now working on the reports. Dianne provided additional information last week.
- July Financial Statements – John asked the Committee to note that \$35,000 recorded as income on the Profit and Loss statement is for Waterwatch, therefore the profit is a little overstated. The statements provide a good indication of monthly administrative expenses for the organization.
- Membership – John pointed out that membership is not a huge component of our revenue; however, we do not have a membership register. We need to send out reminders that membership fees are due. Discussion ensued on the way ahead. John will populate a data sheet and provide to Carol to maintain the register, then Bernie will send out the reminders.

5.4 Coordinator's Report – Bernie Bugden

The full report was circulated by email prior to the meeting.

- Operational Risk 7 – the Australian Government requires us to report on RIS under MERI. We can also insert case study reports so Bernie will add the reports from FoBM and Captain's Flat. Bernie asked FOBM to share the report on their small grants as an exemplar to other grant recipients. He said he found the achievement report very useful.
- Feral Pig Workshop – approximately 25-30 people attended the workshop at Burra, which went well.

5.5 Friends of Black Mountain – Linda Beveridge

- Successful weeding working party on 2 August, using our new saws to cut and dab the woody weeds that were rather woodier than on the last few occasions. Next weeding party is 9.00-12.00 Saturday 6 September, starting at the Barry Drive Gate. Delicious morning tea about 10.30am. Dr Rosemary Purdie has provided great advice and active guidance for the weeding program, and has written a report on the weeding we did in ANBG which is available at which is available at www.anbg.gov.au/gardens/research/library/reports/2014/Purdie-ANBG-weeds-2014.html.
- The low number of plants removed for the majority of native weed species derived solely from plantings within the Gardens suggests that currently these species pose no significant invasive risk. The potential for ANBG to be a source of invasive woody weed species in the adjoining reserve can be minimised by continuing to actively manage both known invasive species and

potentially invasive species within the Gardens; especially *Acacia baileyana*, *A. decurrens*, *Billardiera heterophylla* and *Pittosporum undulatum*.

- FoBM strongly supported the Government in keeping Black Mountain Nature Reserve prohibited for dogs. We also requested that there be resources for very effective education campaign, and dealing with non-compliance. FoBM also put in a short statement of support for protection of wetlands and ensuring that dogs stay ON-LEASH in and around wetlands.
- Frogwatch re-vegetation project included two ponds on Black Mountain that had erosion, and we did the planting on 23 July 2014.
- Pleased to hear about MCG's successful bid for Environment Grant for Black Mountain, Mt Ainslie and Mt Majura.
- The Annual Planning Meeting of FOBM with Parks and Conservation is scheduled for 21 August. The overall Canberra Nature Parks Management Plan is being reviewed, and the plan at this stage is that the team doing this will talk to and gain input from participants at the ParkCare and LandCare meeting scheduled for November 2014.
- Bird survey project is progressing well with the CIT student. FOBM is participating in the Gang-Gang special survey, and the next Muster Week is 21 to 28 August 2014.

Forthcoming events:

- 20 August Frank Fenner Foundation talk on biological management of fires, destructive fire impacts and the global carbon cycle by Walter Jehne. 07:30 PM - 09:00 PM — ANU's Frank Fenner Building corner of Daley Road and Linnaeus Way.
- 28 August, 5.30pm, Telstra Tower. FoBM General Meeting
- 29 -31 Aug OR 26-28 Sep 2014 Jamison Display
- 9 and 10 October, Vegwatch training and refresher training.
- 11 October 2014, 9.00am to 12.00 Balck Mountain Wildflower Ramble
- Vegwatch surveys on Black Mountain planned for early November.

5.6 Queanbeyan Landcare – Tom Baker

- The opening of Jerrabomberra Lookout last week was very successful.

5.7 Royalla Landcare – Maryke Booth

- The Glossy Black Cockatoo survey is underway.
- Bernie has been out to look at the erosion at Jerrabomberra Creek. Maryke hopes to get funding for an initial survey and to formulate a plan for erosion control.
- Need to do a rabbit project.
- Putting in a development application for a new community hall; need to complete the form regarding environmental aspects and threatened species but not required to include the horse arena.

5.8 Burra Landcare

- A workshop with Mel is scheduled for 24 August but there has been little response so far, in spite of letterbox drops of the notification.

6. Other Business

6.1 Project Priorities for the NSW Environmental Trust *Restoration & Rehabilitation* and *Saving our Species* applications – this was discussed earlier in the meeting (see notes at 5.1).


6.2 Senate Inquiry into National Landcare Program – Bernie and Lynton are preparing a draft submission which is due by 15 August. Bernie attended the briefing that was held today. The concern is that there is not enough money going to Landcare and 20% of the funding to regional bodies must be spent directly on landcare.

7. Next Meeting

The next Executive and General Meeting will be held at 5.00pm on Monday, 8 September 2014 at the MCG Office, Unit 13, Cassidy Arcade, 72-76 Monaro Street Queanbeyan.

8. Meeting Close

As all business was concluded, Karen declared the meeting closed at 7.20pm.


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President vice president.

13/10/2014
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Date